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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/786,817	06/08/2001	Austin Gerard Smith	06999.0010-0	6701

22852 7590 12/30/2002

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EXAMINER

WILSON, MICHAEL C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1632

DATE MAILED: 12/30/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

The reply filed on 10-23-02, paper number 8, is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): PD098059 is not a species in Group II which requires a compound that inhibits the ras/MAPK cascade.

Applicant's election with traverse of Group II, claims 12, 14-21, 25-28, 30-39, 43, 44 and 46-50, drawn to a composition comprising a) a compound that promotes propagation of ES cells and b) a compound that inhibits the ras/MAPK cascade, culture medium comprising the composition, a method of culturing ES cells with said composition, a method of culturing ES cells with a compound that inhibits the ras/MAPK cascade, in Paper No. 8 is acknowledged.

Applicants' election of PD09059 as the species of compound that inhibits the ras/MAPK cascade is acknowledged. It is assumed that the election of PD09059 is a typographical error and should be PD098059 as recited in claims 46-49). Applicants' election of PD098059 as a species of Group II is non-responsive because PD098059 is an inhibitor of MEK (Group III), not ras/MAPK (Group II) (Niwa, July 1, 1998, Genes and Development, Vol. 12, pg 2048-2060; pg 2056, col. 1, last para.). Neither the specification nor the art at the time of filing taught PD098059 was an inhibitor of the ras/MAPK cascade as in Group II.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

**MICHAEL C. WILSON
PATENT EXAMINER**